DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT.

Grants certain concessions to Village Panchayets that engage themselves in Agricultural work.

READ—

Government Order No. L. 3592-93—A. & E. 96-23-2, dated 14th November 1923, sanctioning the proposal of the Director of Agriculture to charge a general percentage of ten per cent as profit on implements, seeds and manures and allowing five per cent out of it to Co-operative Societies in respect of the sales made through them and directing that no separate establishment or overhead charges be levied.

2. Letter No. I. D. 1367, dated 30th November 1928, from the Director of Agriculture, recommending for reasons stated the grant of similar concessions to Village Panchayets that engage themselves in Agricultural work, such as purchase and sale of implements, seeds, manures and other appliances.

ORDER NO. D. 7018-28—A. & E. 170-28-2, DATED 7TH JANUARY 1929.

The recommendation of the Director of Agriculture is sanctioned.

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.

Reviews the Report on the working of the Department of Mines and Explosives for the year 1927-28.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. 463, dated the 19th September 1928, from the Officiating Chief Inspector of Mines, submitting the Administration Report of the Department of Mines and Explosives for the year 1927-28.

ORDER NO. D. 6997-7008—GEOL. 45-28-4, DATED 7TH JANUARY 1929.

Recorded.

2. *Personnel.*—Mr. C. E. Suryanarayana Rao was acting as Chief Inspector of Mines during the absence of Mr. R. Bocquet on combined leave.

The work of the Department was on the whole satisfactory though the growing volume of business had to be attended to by the staff which was working short-handed owing to the absence of one of the officers.

3. *Mining and Prospecting.*—The following statement shows the number of leases, licenses, and certificates of approval that were current during the year 1927-28 as compared with those of the previous year;—

	1926-27.	1927-28.
Mining leases	47	45
Prospecting licenses	29	15
Collecting	5	4
Exploring	1	4
Certificates of approval	50	36
Total ..	132	104

The number of mining leases for gold remained the same as in previous year, *viz*: 22.

4. *Gold Mining Operations.*—Five Companies carried on gold mining operations during the year under report, and all of them were in the Kolar Gold Fields area. The total quantity of fine gold and silver produced during the year was 3,81,723 ozs., and 20,220 ozs., respectively as against 3,82,299 ozs., and 22,383 ozs. in 1926. The